

## **PROGRAMS FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS**

In accordance with the belief that all children are entitled to education commensurate with their particular needs, children in the District who are gifted are provided opportunities to progress as their abilities permit. The Board believes that these children require services beyond those offered in regular school programs in order to realize their potential contribution to themselves and society.

Children who are gifted are identified annually by qualified professionals using a variety of assessment procedures. The Board encourages efforts to provide services for children who are gifted as an integral part of the total kindergarten through grade 12 program.

### Identification

The District follows the identification eligibility criteria as specified in the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code.

1. The District identifies children of the District, in grades kindergarten through 12, as gifted children who perform at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to other children of the same age, experience and environment, as identified under the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code. Accordingly, a child can be identified as exhibiting:
  - A. superior cognitive ability;
  - B. specific academic ability in one or more of the following content areas:
    - 1) mathematics;
    - 2) science;
    - 3) reading, writing or a combination of these skills and/or
    - 4) social studies;
  - C. creative thinking ability and/or
  - D. visual or performing arts ability such as drawing, painting, sculpting, music, dance or drama.
2. The District uses only those instruments approved by the Ohio Department of Education for screening, assessment and identification of children who are gifted.
3. **A student identified as gifted in accordance with State law remains identified as gifted regardless of subsequent testing or classroom performance.**

## District Plan for Identifying Gifted Students

The District adopts and submits to the Ohio Department of Education a plan for the screening, assessment and identification of children who are gifted. Any revisions to the District plan are submitted to the Ohio Department of Education for approval. The identification plan includes the following:

1. the criteria and methods the District uses to screen and select children for further assessment who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment in one of the gifted areas;
2. ~~the sources of assessment data the District uses to select children for further testing and an explanation to parents/guardians of the multiple assessment instruments required to identify children who are gifted;~~ **a description of the assessment instruments selected from the ODE-approved list to be used for the screening and identification of students who are gifted;**
3. **procedures for the provision of at least two whole grade screening opportunities to be administered for all students once prior to the end of second grade, and once for all students between grades three and six;**
4. ~~2.~~ the sources of assessment data the District uses to select children for further testing and an explanation to parents/guardians of the multiple assessment instruments required to identify children who are gifted;
5. ~~3.~~ an explanation for parents/guardians of the methods the District uses to ensure equal access to screening and further assessment by all District children, ~~culturally and linguistically diverse children, children from low socio-economic backgrounds, children with disabilities and children for whom English is a second language;~~ **including minority and disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and English Learner students;**
6. ~~4.~~ the process of notifying parents/guardians regarding all policies and procedures concerning the screening, assessment and identification of children who are gifted; **including the requirement to notify parents within 30 days of the District's receipt of a student's results on any screening procedure or assessment instrument;**
7. ~~5.~~ an opportunity for parents/guardians to appeal any decision about results of any screening procedure or assessment, the scheduling of children for assessment or the placement of a student in any program for receipt of services;
8. ~~6.~~ procedures for the assessment of children who transfer into the District **no later than 90 days after the transfer at the request of the parent;**

9. 7. at least two opportunities per year for assessment in the case of children requesting assessment or recommended for assessment by teachers, parents or other children **with the initial assessment to be completed no later than 90 days of referral regardless of the grade levels where gifted services are offered;** and
10. 8. an explanation that the District accepts scores on assessment instruments approved for use by the Ohio Department of Education that are provided by other school districts and trained personnel outside the District.

The District's plan may provide for the District to contract with any qualified public or private service provider to provide screening or assessment services under the plan. Gifted education coordinators provide the District with assistance in placing students, designing services, consulting on strategic planning, evaluating services on an ongoing basis and eliciting input from parents and staff.

#### District Plan for Services

The District adopts and submits to the Ohio Department of Education a plan for a continuum of services that may be offered to students who are gifted.

1. The District ensures equal opportunity for all children identified as gifted to receive any or all services offered by the District.
2. The District ~~implements~~ **ensures** a procedure for withdrawal of ~~children~~ **students** from District gifted programs or services and for reassessment of ~~children~~ **students and assessment of students transferring into the district**
3. The District implements a procedure for resolving disputes with regard to identification and placement decisions.
4. Any District gifted education services are delivered in accordance with Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code.
5. The District informs parents of the contents of this policy as required by Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code.

**The services likely to be provided to a student based upon the nature of their identification are:**

1. **cluster grouping;**
2. **an honors course;**
3. **an advanced placement course;**

4. services through a trained arts instructor;
5. grade acceleration;
6. dual enrollment opportunities including by not limited to College Credit Plus;
7. educational options including credit flexibility, advanced online courses and program and other options as defined in State law.

The gifted services currently available within the District and the criteria for receiving these services are:

1. **Cluster grouping: Criteria for service: gifted identification in one or more of the following areas: cognitive ability, single subject ability in mathematics, reading, science, and/or social studies**
2. **Honors course in an identified area: Criteria for service: Meeting district requirements for participation**
3. **Advanced placement course in an identified area: Criteria for service: Meeting district requirements for participation**
4. **Grade acceleration: Criteria for service: Board policy on Acceleration (IKEB) and Model Student Acceleration Policy adopted by the State Board of Education**
5. **Dual enrollment opportunities including but not limited to College Credit Plus: Criteria for service: acceptance into the CCP program and enrollment into a course in the student's area of identification; cognitive thinking ability, specific academic ability, and/or visual and performing arts ability.**

#### Written Education Plan

The District provides gifted services based on the student's area(s) of identification and individual needs and is guided by a written education plan (WEP) ~~The WEP, which is provided to parents of gifted students and educators responsible for providing gifted education services, includes a description of the services provided, including goals for the student in each service specified, methods for evaluating progress toward achieving the goals specified and methods and schedule for reporting progress to students. The WEP also specifies staff members responsible for ensuring that specified services are delivered, policies regarding the waiver of assignments and the scheduling of tests missed while a student is participating in any gifted services provided outside the general education classroom and a date by which the WEP will be reviewed for possible revision.~~ **developed in collaboration with an educator who holds licensure or endorsement in gifted education. The District provides parents with periodic reports regarding the student's progress toward meeting goals and the effectiveness of services provided in accordance with the WEP. The WEP is provided to parents of gifted students and educators responsible for providing gifted education services and includes:**

1. A description of the services provided, including goals for the student in each service specified, including but not limited to measurable academic goals;
2. Methods and performance measurements for evaluating progress toward achieving the goals specified;
3. Methods and schedule for reporting progress to students and parents;
4. Staff members responsible for ensuring that specified services are delivered;
5. Policies regarding the waiver of assignments and the scheduling of tests missed while a student is participating in any gifted services provided outside the general education classroom; and
6. A date by which the WEP will be reviewed for possible revision.

At the commencement of services, and each year in which a student receives services, the District makes a reasonable attempt, in writing, to obtain a parent/guardian signature on the WEP. A student will not be denied services due to lack of a parent/guardian signature.

The District will develop and disseminate a “no services” letter to parents/guardians of students identified as gifted but not receiving gifted services clearly communicating the student is not receiving gifted services. The letter may include a list of enrichment opportunities provided to the student by the District.

#### Gifted Education Personnel

Gifted education instruction is provided by gifted education intervention specialists by grade level in accordance with the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). Gifted education instruction is offered during the regular school day and may be provided in large or small groups and/or individually in a variety of settings. The depth, breadth, and pace of instruction based on the appropriate content areas may be differentiated. ~~Where differentiated instruction is provided in a regular classroom, the teacher is either licensed in gifted education or has received a general~~ **education teacher is designated as the provider of gifted services, the teacher meets the requirements of OAC including the requirements to receive** professional development and ongoing assistance from a gifted education intervention specialist or gifted education coordinator.

#### Annual Report and Accountability

The District submits, as required, a gifted education annual report to the Ohio Department of Education.

The District submits, as required, a gifted education data audit to the Ohio Department of Education.

The Superintendent/designee implements all policies and procedures in accordance with laws, rules and regulations and follows the Ohio Administrative Code rules regarding gifted education.

[Adoption date: ]

LEGAL REFERS.: ORC 3324.01

OAC 3301-51-15

CROSS REF.: JB, Equal Educational Opportunities

IKEB, Acceleration